



United States Attorney's Office
District of Columbia

Ronald C. Machen Jr.
United States Attorney

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, July 23, 2010

USAO Public Affairs

(202) 514-6933

www.usdoj.gov/usao/dc

DISTRICT MAN SENTENCED TO 14 YEARS FOR ROBBING HUSBAND AND PREGNANT WIFE AT GUNPOINT *Couple robbed on the front steps of their home*

WASHINGTON - A 22-year-old District man, Anton Thompson, was sentenced today to fourteen years' incarceration on charges of armed robbery and possession of a firearm during a crime of violence, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced. The case, tried in Superior Court of the District of Columbia, stemmed from an armed robbery of a husband and his wife, who was nine months pregnant, as they entered their home.

According to the evidence at trial, on the evening of March 16, 2008, the victims were arriving at their single-family home in the 3900 block of 21st Street NE. As they walked up the sidewalk leading to their front door, the defendant and an accomplice appeared from around the street corner and began running toward them shouting, "Stop! Don't move!" Believing the suspects to be merely neighborhood kids who were joking, the victims greeted the suspects, waving and saying "hello" to them, and then proceeded to their front door.

As the couple walked up their front steps, they turned around to discover Thompson and his accomplice – both armed with firearms – pointing at each of them. One of the victims stated "I'm pregnant. Are you really doing this?" The defendant and his accomplice demanded their possessions and then robbed the couple of their wallet and purse and ran away. The victims called the police, who canvassed the area but were unable to find any suspects matching the description.

The next morning, a passerby stumbled upon the victims' discarded property in a trash can at a gas station 10 blocks away. From their identifying information, the passerby contacted the victims and returned their property. A crime scene technician developed Thompson's fingerprints from the discarded property, and one of the victims was able to identify him as one of the assailants. Thompson pled not guilty and proceeded to trial, where a jury found him guilty of all counts: two of armed robbery and two of possession of a firearm during a crime of violence.

In announcing his sentence, the Honorable Judge Robert E. Morin noted the defendant's criminal history, which included convictions for three separate armed carjackings in Maryland.

U.S. Attorney Machen commended MPD Detectives Anthony Commodore and Carter Adams, as well as MPD Crime Scene Technician Martin Fosso. Finally, U.S. Attorney Machen expressed his appreciation to paralegal Kalisha Johnson-Clark, Litigation Support and Assistant U.S. Attorney Chris Kavanaugh, who investigated, indicted, and tried the case.

###